

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 04708 290951Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----122979 290956Z /23

O 290903Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6943  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 4708

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, IS  
SUBJECT: AN EVENING WITH AN EMINENT ARCHEOLOGIST

1. FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN GAVE A DINNER AT HIS HOME  
JUNE 27 FOR JOE SISCO WITH AN INTERESTING CAST OF  
CHARACTERS: RABIN, WEIZMAN, SHOVAL (LIKUD-LA'AM  
FACTION), CIECHANOVER AND EVRON, AMONG OTHERS.; EVENING  
WAS FILLED WITH UNDERCURRENTS, AMONG WHICH WAS TENSION  
STEMMING FROM FACT THAT WEIZMAN'S WIFE HAD NOT BEEN IN  
DAYAN'S HOUSE SINCE HER SISTER, RUTH, HAD DIVORCED HIM.  
WEIZMAN AND RABIN SPARRED VIGOROUSLY MOST OF EVENING  
OVER PEACE PROCESS AND BEGIN GOVERNMENT PROSPECTS.  
WEIZMAN WAS SELF-CONFIDENT, EUPHORIC, AND LITTLE SHORT  
OF INSULTING AT TIMES TO RABIN. RABIN HANDLED HIMSELF  
WITH CONSIDERABLE DIGNITY, AS DID HIS WIFE.

2. AFTER DINNER I WAS INTERESTED BYSTANDER WHILE  
WEIZMAN ATTEMPTED TO GET RABIN TO AGREE THAT LIKUD AND  
LABOR POSITIONS ON CONDITIONS FOR PEACE WERE REALLY  
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 TEL AV 04708 290951Z

IDENTICAL. RABIN DID ADMIT THAT THEY AGREED ON (A)  
NO RETURN TO 67 BORDERS, (B) NO INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN  
STATE, (C) JORDAN RIVER AS ISRAEL'S SECURITY BOUNDARY,  
AND (D) RIGHT OF JEWS TO SETTLE IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.  
WEIZMAN THEN TRIED TO ASSERT THAT THIS MEANT THERE WAS  
NO DIFFERENCE IN THEIR POSITIONS. RABIN INSISTED THAT  
TWO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES EXISTED: (A) WHERE SETTLE-

MENTS IS OCCUPIED TERRITORIES WOULD BE AUTHORIZED, AND (B) ACCEPTANCE BY PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT OF NECESSITY OF WITHDRAWAL FROM POPULATED AREAS OF WEST BANK IN EXCHANGE FOR REAL PEACE. TURNING POINTEDLY TO ME, RABIN ALSO REITERATED ALLEGATION WHICH HE HAS BEEN ARTICULATING FREQUENTLY OF LATE THAT U.S. PUBLIC POSITION ON THESE ISSUES HAD BEEN ONE OF PRIMARY CAUSES OF HIS PARTY'S DEFEAT.

3. WITH DAYAN I TRIED TO PIN DOWN MEANING OF HIS RECENT REMARKS TO BARBARA WALTERS AND TO FOREIGN MINISTRY STAFF. HE INISTED HIS MEANING IS QUITE CLEAR: THAT SO FAR AS THE WEST BANK AND GAZA ARE CONCERNED, NONE OF ISRAELI OFFERS HAVE EVER BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE ARABS, AND THAT THEREFORE HE BELIEVES NO FURTHER OFFERS SHOULD BE PUT ON THE TABLE BY ISRAELIS WHICH WOULD IMPLY ANY FORM OF PARTITION. HOWEVER, HE STRESSED THAT THIS IN NO WAY MEANT HE WAS RULING OUT NEGOTIATION OVER WEST BANK OR ANY OTHER PART OF OCCUPIED TERRITORIES; RATHER HE WAS MAKING CLEAR THAT OTHER PARTIES WOULD HAVE TO MAKE TERRITORIAL PROPOSALS, TO WHICH BEGIN GOVERNMENT WOULD GIVE FULLEST CONSIDERATION IN LIGHT OF NATURE OF PEACE SETTLEMENT PROPOSED IN EXCHANGE FOR TERRITORY. DAYAN ALSO TOLD ME HE WOULD BE SPENDING PRACTICALLY FULL TIME ON PROBLEM OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS AND U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONSHIP.  
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PAGE 03 TEL AV 04708 290951Z

4. EVRON CONFIRMED TO ME THAT HIS APPOINTMENT AS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS NOW FIRM AND WOULD BE PRESENTED FOR CABINET APPROVAL JULY 3.

5. WEIZMAN SAID HE DOUBTED VERY MUCH THAT SPECIFIC ARMS SUPPLY ISSUES WOULD PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN DISCUSSIONS DURING BEGIN VISIT. CHIECHANOVER CONFIRMED THAT BEGIN EXPECTS TO CALL ON SECRETARIES BROWN AND BLUMENTHAL. HE, TOO, ASSUMES THAT BEGIN'S DISCUSSIONS ON MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ISSUES WILL BE AT HIGH LEVEL OF GENERALITY--WITH HIS PRIMARY FOCUS FOR VISIT ON THE U.S.-ISRAEL POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP, AND ON THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATION PROCESS AND PROSPECTS.

6. DAYAN AND EVRON GOT WORD BY PHONE LATE IN EVENING OF STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT ON ME PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. THEY WERE CLEARLY UPSET, BUT NONE OF US HAD TEXT SO WE AGREED TO POSTPONE DISCUSSION.  
LEWIS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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